



**PRELIMINARY
AMENDMENT**

Application #	09/964,858
Confirmation #	2374
Filing Date	28 September 2001
First Inventor	HOSTETTER
Art Unit	1645
Examiner	Devi
Docket #	P07274US02/BAS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COPY

S I R:

In conjunction with the RCE filed herewith, prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

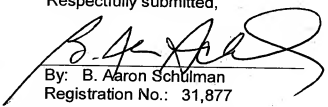
- **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims provided herewith in **Attachment A**.

Please consider the responsive **Remarks** provided herewith in **Attachment B**.

In view of the amendments made and the remarks provided, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 27 December 2004


By: B. Aaron Schulman
Registration No.: 31,877

STITES & HARBISON PLC ♦ 1199 North Fairfax St. ♦ Suite 900 ♦ Alexandria, VA 22314
TEL: 703-739-4900 ♦ FAX: 703-739-9577 ♦ EMAIL: iplaw@larsontaylor.com ♦ CUSTOMER NO. 000881

COPY